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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCESMETHODOLOGYEXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: _____
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. WATA 1097

CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Branch N
Attention: DATE: 26 March 1948
FROM : Chief of Station, Vienna, Austria
SUBJECT: GENERAL- Operational
SPECIFIC- Plans for Training V/T Operators

1. On the evening of 25 March 1948, [] arrived in Vienna in the company of []. The next day a long discussion was held of the problem of training V/T operators for stay-behind purposes. [] and [] explained to [] [] and [] a number of the technical difficulties and answered some of the questions which have been bothering this station for some time in connection with future plans. We were particularly interested to learn that a good radio operator could adjust the set that the Communications Section issues so as to be able to reach England, and possibly even the United States. [] explained that in transmissions to distant control stations the skill of the operator and atmospheric conditions are factors which had to be taken into consideration. Under the present setup radio operators scheduled to transmit from Austria will be given a control station in Germany, although adjustment of the transmitting technique would permit the radio operator to reach more distant bases.

2. We discussed the individuals proposed tentatively as radio operators in NAYA-964, dated 25 February 1948. Unfortunately [] had recently left Vienna on a student trip to Paris and [] was in the hospital undergoing an operation. The radio store operator mentioned in paragraph 8 of the above communication could not be made available for an interview by [] during the short period [] and [] planned to stay in Vienna. We were able to arrange that [] interview and test out briefly the technical abilities and general suitability of [] and [].

3. After testing the following comments:

a. Subject has been studying radio theory and has studied Morse characters on paper, cannot recognize one from the other by ear, however.

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SECRET

- b. Has no experience with transmitting.
- c. Averaged 60% right on made-up code aptitude test. Not bad, but not as good as previous subjects.
- d. Seems very eager to please but somehow or other I couldn't help wonder how she was going to get along when training began to get rough and novelty of the school were off.
- e. Will take her as student but suggest she be last to come as she will take the longest to train and it seems advisable to get the training of the more qualified people over with first.

4. After testing C told C that C made the impression of an earnest, serious individual who was fairly satisfactory at transmitting but had no knowledge of how to receive messages by ear. This is to be explained by the fact that, because of C 's work in the police, he is trained to read Morse messages from a tape as the message comes in. C stated that C is very skilled at reading messages but would have to adjust himself to receiving them by ear. C promised to get more practice at transmitting from now on. This is a comparatively simple task for him since he works during the day in a district police station in Vienna where a radio communication set is in constant use. C felt that, if C is able to make the necessary adjustment to oral receptions, he would prove to be a satisfactory operator.

5. While it is to be regretted that C and C were not available at the time of C and C 's visit, we point out that these two agents are the ones in whose technical abilities we have the most confidence. We therefore propose to send up for training in Germany our candidates in the following order: C, C, C, C, and lastly C. Depending on circumstances the radio shop owner can be fitted into our schedule at any time after he has been properly vetted. It was agreed that this station will send a cable to Karlsruhe on about 10 April and indicate when we are prepared to send C to Frankfurt by military aircraft. If C 's section is ready to receive him, they will give us the go-ahead signal. For reasons of security and convenience we agreed to send the individual agents by plane to Frankfurt under the escort of one of our soldiers. Once in Frankfurt, the agent will become the responsibility of Communications Section, which will undertake to return him to Vienna after the completion of the course.

6. It was agreed by all parties to the discussion that the greatest speed would be given to arranging the training program in view of the present international situation.